

Pocahontas County

2. His livelihood

a. His farming and other occupations; his crops and how they were cultivated; his market for them and transportation facilities; his sources of income; such as hunting, trapping, fishing, to provide furs and hides, ginseng and herbs for the market.

b. His perils and how he met them; Indians and renegades; the elements of nature; the extraordinary precautions necessary for his livelihood to survive, and how he devised them; his philosophy and general outlook toward an existence in which he must fight every inch of the way to earn his bread, as noted in journals or diaries.

3. His economic progress

a. Exploitation of natural resources.

(1) Lumber; its uses; by whom first cut; when and where; where marketed.

(2) Early quarrying and mining; where and when; by whom discovered the first "bank mines"; primitive methods of mining; where marketed; and what used for:

(3) Oil and gas; when and where, and by whom discovered and first developed; how developed; primitive methods of development; where marketed; the uses made of oil and gas.

b. Trades and Crafts

(1) Home handicrafts developed in the wilderness through necessity and later developed into revenue producing agents.

(2) Trades brought into the wilderness and practiced. Who was the first blacksmith; miller, veterinarian, and when and where did they practice?

The end of the chapter, where natural resources are first exploited and attract a growing population, will treat of the beginning of population concentration in villages and towns, and this will be taken up at length in chapter 7 on Industries.

THE HISTORY OF POCAHONTAS COUNTY

CHAPTER V

EARLY LIFE AND OCCUPATION

(Chapter Questions)

Outline the average day of the early frontiersman, listing hour's activity from dawn (or "getting up" time) to bed-time. What tasks did he have to perform? How many hours did it take? When did he hunt? How was the home labor divided between members of the family? Was education provided for? How much? What time was devoted to religion--actual or formal? What time were meals served and how much time was devoted to them? What were the provisions for protection against the Indians--if protection were needed? How was livestock protected from preying animals? What were family sizes? What advantages were there in having large families? Did the pioneers express their reasons for the number of children for practical reasons? Record any instances of especially large families.

1. His home.

a. Its physical aspects as to size, etc. Describe the home as it was constructed to care for pioneer necessities. Where was the center of home activities? Where was laundering done? Where was bathing performed? How often? Were the homes clean? List ways the homes were adapted to the occupational activities carried on there. How did this affect the living conditions of the settlers' families? What were food standards? What connection did food supply have to do with the work the settlers did? Did some families fare better than others? Was this due to greater energy in their working? How well trained in the skills were the children of pioneer families?

b. Its Atmosphere. What was the social life of those times? What games were played by men? Boys? Girls? Women? Was there dancing? Describe a dance. What other occasions brought the settlers together? What magazines were received? By whom? How obtained? Were there musical instruments in the homes? Was there a harpsichord or organ? When were these first found in the county? (The records most likely will mention the first of several instruments to be brought into the settlements.) What songs were sung? Was there any wandering minstrels? Any anecdotes about his adventures? Was there story telling bees? What were the stories? Tell some, if possible. Who were the early heroes talked about? What other forms of entertainment were there? What athletic contests? List sports by season.

2. His Livelihood.

Describe his farms. Size? How cleared? What given? Method? Tools? Hours of work in different season in detail. Was anything sold? To whom? Where? Was anything bartered? (Barter always produce some good tales of swaps; see if you can dig up something of the kind.) Was hunting, fishing, trapping for the purpose of sale elsewhere, or to supply own needs? Just how important to early income was ginseng? What other herbs were sold? What products were imported? From where? How?

The History of Pocahontas
Chapter V--Early Life and Occupations--(Chapter Questions)

5. His Economic Progress.

a. Exploitation of Natural Resources.

(1) This section should be treated in special adaptation to local conditions in your county. The type of industry present and the manner of pursuing it will differ in various counties. Therefore, this list of questions should be a bare base for your investigation rather than a complete coverage. We suggest you find answers to the following questions and use the facts thus obtained for formulating other, more detailed inquiries; What were your county's early industries? When were they begun and to exploit what resources? Write a history of each. Many may have become extinct. Cover them anyway. How many were employed in these works? What wages were paid? What types of jobs were there? What were living standards in the section for these workers? Where was the market, or markets? How was transportation provided? Who furnished the capital? How much local, and outside, control was exercised?

(2) When did the settlers first sell lumber? To whom? How was it cut? What tools were used? What was it used for? When was coal first used? When sold commercially? Where? To whom? How transported? What quarrying did the early settlers do? Was stone sold outside the county? When was oil discovered? To what use was it put? How developed? Is it commercially valuable? Was it so in pioneer days? To what use did early settlers put the gas? Oil? Coal?

b. Trades and Crafts.

(1) List early handicrafts that developed into income producers. Describe them and the reasons for their growth in importance. How were the early settlers able to obtain services rendered by blacksmith, veterinarian, miller, etc. What makeshift and manner was first adopted? When did specialists in these fields appear? Where did they locate?

(2) What skills were developed in these jobs? How did degree of skill affect pay? Did the early industries stem from home-learned handicrafts? Were they products of necessity? What trades were brought into the wilderness by the settlers that later developed into industries for the practitioners? What trades were there in the pioneer settlement? Get names of persons who were skilled, stories of their skill and application of it. Do not stop with this brief outline of suggestions. Be detailed and specific. Names are the thing; therefore, get names.

CHAPTER FIVE -- EARLY LIFE AND OCCUPATIONS
POCAHONTAS COUNTY

QUESTIONS FOR SECTIONS a and b

1. DESCRIBE METHODS OF HUNTING AND TRAPPING:

a. Outline the average day of the early frontiersman, listing hour's activity from dawn (or "getting up" time) to bed-time. What tasks did he have to perform? How many hours did it take? When did he hunt? How was the home labor divided between members of the family? Was education provided for? How much? What time was devoted to religion - actual or formal? What time were meals served and how much time was devoted to them? What were the provisions for protection against the Indians - if protection were needed? How was live stock protected from preying animals? What were family sizes? What advantages were there in having large families? That is, did they openly admit they wanted a large number of children for practical reasons? Record any instances of especially large families.

b. Describe the home as it was constructed to care for pioneer necessities. Where was the center of home activities? Where was laundering done? Where was bathing performed? How often? Were the homes clean? List ways the homes were adapted to the occupational activities carried on there. How did this effect the living conditions of the settler's families? What were food standards? What connection did food supply have to do with the work the settlers did? Did some families fare better than others? Was this due to greater energy in their working? How well trained in the skills were the children of pioneer families?

c. What was the social life of those times? What games were played by men? Boys? Girls? Women? Was there dancing? Describe a dance. What other occasions brought the settlers together? What magazines were received? By whom? How obtained? Were there musical instruments in the homes? Was there a harpsichord or organ? When were these first found in the county? (The records most likely will mention the first of several instruments to be brought into the settlements. Give dates, make of instrument, description, way received by the settlers.) What songs were sung: Were there any wandering minstrels? Any anecdotes about his adventures? Were there story telling bees? What were the stories? Tell some, if possible. Who were the early heroes talked about? What other forms of entertainment were there? What athletic contests? List sports by season.

2.

a. Describe his farms. Size? How cleared? What given? Methods? Tools? Hours of work in different seasons in detail. Was anything sold? To whom? Where? Was anything bartered? (Barter always produces some good tales of swaps; see if you can dig up something of the kind). Was hunting, fishing, trapping for the purpose of sale elsewhere, or to supply own needs? Just how important to early income was ginseng? What other herbs were sold? What products were imported? From where? How? When did the settlers first sell lumber? To whom? How was it cut? What tools were used? What was it used for? When was coal first used? When sold commercially? Where? To whom? How transported? What quarrying did the early settlers do? Was stone sold outside the